

### United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240

JUL 6 2010

Notice to file:

This property has been automatically listed in the National Register of Historic Places. This is due to the fact that the publication of our Federal Register Notice: "National Register of Historic Places: Pending Nominations and Other Actions" was delayed beyond our control to the point where the mandated 15 day public comment period ended after our required 45 day time frame to act on the nomination. If the 45<sup>th</sup> day falls on a weekend or Federal holiday, the property will be automatically listed the next business day. The nomination is technically adequate and meets the National Register criteria for evaluation, and thus, automatically listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Edson H. Beall

Historian

National Register of Historic Places

Phone: 202-354-2255 Fax: 202-371-2229 413

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property	
Historic name Travelers Hotel	
Other names/site number	
2. Location	
street & number 121 Main Street	not for publication
city of town Noonan	☐ vicinity
State North Dakota code ND county Divide code	023 zip code 58765
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amende	ed,
I hereby certify that this <u>x</u> nomination <u>request for determination of eligibility not for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the properties are the properties of the National Register of Historic Places and meets the properties are the properties of the National Register of Historic Places and meets the properties are the National Register of Historic Places and meets the properties are the National Register of Historic Places and Meets the Places are the National Register of Historic Places and Meets the Places are the National Register of Historic Places and Meets the Places are the National Register of Historic Places and Meets the Places are the Places are the National Register of Historic Places and Meets the Places are the Places are the Places are the National Register of Historic Places and Meets the Places are t</u>	
In my opinion, the property <u>x</u> meets <u>does not meet the National Register Crit be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:</u>	teria. I recommend that this property
nationalstatewidexlocal	18-10
Signature of certifying official - Merlan E Paaveryd, Jr	Date
State Historic Preservation Officer Title State or Fedi	eral agency and bureau
	erar agency and bureau
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official Date	
	eral agency and bureau
4. National Park Service Certification	
I, hereby, dertify that this property is:  entered in the National Register  Signature of the Keeper  and Signature of the Keeper	JUL 6 2010
determined eligible for the National Register	
determined not eligible for the National Register	
removed from the National Register	
other (explain:)	

Travelers Hotel Name of Property	Divide, North Dakota County and State		
5. Classification			
Category of Property Check as many boxes as apply)  X private public - Local public - State public - Federal private private private private private private private private  Name of related multiple property listing Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)  Contributing Noncontributing  buildings sites structures Objects buildings Total  Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register  None		
6. Function or Use Historic Functions	Current Functions		
(Enter categories from instructions)	(Enter categories from instructions)		
DOMESTIC/hotel	Work in progress		
COMMERCE/restaurant	DOMESTIC/hotel		
	COMMERCE/restaurant		
7. Description			
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)		
Late 19 <sup>th</sup> Century and Early 20 <sup>th</sup> Century American	foundation: CONCRETE		
Movements: Commercial Style	walls: BRICK		
	roof: STEEL		
	other:		

Travelers Hotel	Divide, North Dakota
Name of Property	County and State
The lobby of the hotel remains much as it was with the exception of the exterior door into the lobby is surrounded by smaller windows and brithe side that look into the lobby. The ornate tin ceilings are still visible	ngs you into a small enclosed entry with windows on

Divide Nedt Delete

restaurant. The tin ceilings are in remarkably good condition, there are only several two-foot squares that will need to be replaced. The building has its original wood floors that have been mostly covered with linoleum on the main level. The beautiful wooden staircase is also original and in very good condition. It is a U-type return stair leading from the lobby to the upstair rooms and it is the focal point of the hotel.

8. State	ement of Significance	
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)		Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
		COMMERCE
Х	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	SOCIAL HISTORY
В	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	
С	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.	Period of Significance 1910-1966
42700703-000000	Significant Dates	
	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	February 7, 1910 – Grand Opening
	a Considerations 'in all the boxes that apply)	
Propert	y is:	Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)
A	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	
В	removed from its original location	Cultural Affiliation
c	a birthplace or grave.	
D	a cemetery.	
E	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	Architect/Builder
F	a commemorative property.	unknown
G	less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.	

Period of Significance (justification)

The Travelers Hotel opened in 1910 as a hotel/restaurant and it remained in that capacity until after 1966. No structural changes were made during this period. The hotel had one owner from 1929 through 1966. After 1966, the hotel changed hands frequently and significant changes were made to the restaurant area, first remodeling it into a grocery store, and then into a bar. Some of the rooms upstairs were also remodeled into an apartment. The period of significance has been narrowed down to the era that the building remained as a hotel/restaurant.

Divide, North Dakota County and State

#### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### Summary Paragraph

The Travelers Hotel is a two-story rectangular brick hotel built in 1909, It is located on Main Street in the small town of Noonan, just across the street from Bootleggers Tavern. It is the second oldest standing commercial building in Noonan and is situated on two lots in the City of Noonan. The Hotel contains 5000 square feet; 2500 on the first floor which housed a lobby, living quarters, a kitchen and a restaurant, and 2500 on the second floor which contained 12 small hotel rooms and a community bathroom. There is also a partial basement which contained two guest rooms and housed a state-of-the art steam furnace in its day. There were 14 total guest rooms in the original structure. The featured attractions in the Hotel are the original wooden staircase which leads from the lobby to the rooms upstairs and the old tin ceilings in the lobby/restaurant area on the main floor. The roof was leaking for many years, and as a result the hotel has fallen into serious disrepair.

#### Narrative Description

The Travelers Hotel has a poured concrete foundation with a built-in chute into the basement where coal was deposited to fuel the steam furnace. Steam pipes led to cast iron radiators in each room. The exterior walls are built with three layers of small 3"x7" bricks. The two inner layers of brick are red kiln dried brick and the exterior layer is of gray pressed sandstone brick. Most of the windows have segmented arches along the top on the exterior. There is an interesting stepped cornice across the top of the front of the hotel. The original metal "Travelers Hotel" sign across the front is still in good condition in spite of being there for over 100 years. The upstairs rooms have double-hung wooden windows with pocket weights for ease in raising and lowering. The main floor originally had two large picture windows on the front as can be seen in older photos, but they have been replaced with smaller ones. The window on the hotel lobby has been boarded up for about 15 years now.

The roof is a shed type with a four-foot downward slant from front to back. It was historically covered with rolled asphalt and tar, but was covered with steel panels in July 2009 in order to repair serious leaks. The roof is not visible from the street because there is a built-up wall of brick on the front and sides to make it look square.

There were originally two double chimneys on the building but neither of these chimneys have been used for many years. One is seriously deteriorated and is collapsing into the basement, the other one in the hotel lobby has been paneled over and is not currently visible from the inside.

There is a wooden staircase leading from the main floor into the partial basement. There were two guest rooms in the basement and another large room which was probably used for storage, as well as the room which housed the steam furnace.

The interior of the building is in bad condition at this time, mostly because of the severity of the leaking roof. Most all of the interior walls, ceilings and floor coverings will need to be replaced to make it useable again. The walls and ceilings consisted of wood lathe covered with plaster. Some of the walls have been replaced with drywall.

In the 1930s, a doorway was added on the front of the building so that the restaurant could be accessed without going through the hotel lobby. This door was removed in the 1980s when it was converted into a bar and the exterior is now covered with wooden panels in that area.

For a short time in the late 1970s, the restaurant area was used as a grocery store. After a fire at Howard's Bar, the main floor of the hotel was remodeled to convert the grocery store into a bar. A long bar was installed along the south wall in the dining room and the kitchen was removed to make a seating area. Old barn wood was put on the walls in the area where the kitchen was. Most of the main floor, including the hotel lobby, was used as seating area for the bar. Two small bathrooms were added on the main floor as well.

In the 1980s, half of the upstairs was converted into an apartment. The other half of the upstairs is unchanged and remains small hotel rooms.

Some details that remain upstairs include the wooden doors to the guest rooms, many of which still have the small metal numbers of the rooms still attached to them. Other interesting items are the transom windows above all the doors, and all the wood trim work around the doors and windows, as well as the baseboards. All of these items will be preserved and used in the future plans for the hotel.

Travelers Hotel

Divide, North Dakota

Name of Property

County and State

Statement of Significance Summany Paragraph (provide a summany paragraph that includes level of significance)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (provide a summary paragraph that includes level of signficance and applicable criteria)

The Travelers Hotel qualifies to be listed on the National Register under Criteria A in the areas of Commerce and Social History. The Hotel opened as a commercial building in Noonan in 1910 with 14 guest rooms and a busy restaurant. It was the most up-to-date hotel in the northwest corrner of North Dakota at that time, boasting of electric lights, telephones, and steam heat. The rooms were booked to capacity almost every night as can be verified by the registry books. Many prominent and colorful citizens stayed there, as well as local residents. Breakfast, lunch and dinner were available to patrons at the Hotel's own restaurant, which catered not only to the guests, but was also open to the public. As a social gathering place, the Hotel played a huge part in early Noonan's history. The Hotel's lobby and restaurant were used as meeting places for various organizations, parties and social events throughout the years. Bridal showers, card parties, and even weddings were held there. Noonan's first doctor and dentist in Noonan worked out of rooms in the Hotel. The lobby housed the first public phone booth in Noonan and it was also where the bus to and from Minot stopped daily. The Travelers Hotel was a very popular place in its day, and a central hub in the development of the city of Noonan.

#### Narrative Statement of Significance (provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance)

The first homesteaders in Divide County didn't arrive until spring 1903, but by the following winter the eastern two-thirds of the county was full of claim shacks. The first lots on the plat of the City of Noonan were sold in 1906 and it was incorporated in 1907. Named for the Patrick Noonan family, Noonan was known and advertised as "The White City," for all its buildings were to be painted white or constructed of white pressed brick according to lot contracts. Coal mining was the lifeblood of the community, along with agriculture, and the railroad. One of the first strip coal mines in the state was started when lignite coal was discovered on a creek bank one mile southeast of Noonan. The Travelers Hotel opened in 1910 as a hotel/restaurant and it remained in that capacity for most of its history. It was an integral part of the early history of the City of Noonan. Immigrants coming from places such as Norway and Belgium, and also a great many people migrating from Minnesota to North Dakota, stayed at the hotel as they came to homestead, start businesses, visit relatives already there, or just attend one of the many celebrations held there. It housed the first local dentist and doctor, as well as many other city founders, coal mining officials and workers, railroad workers and business owners. The current owners of the hotel have the early registry books from the hotel, which date from 1910 to 1929, and they are filled with the signatures of the prominent businessmen of the day, guests arriving for special occasions, and ancestors of the people of the Noonan area.

The hotel's grand opening on February 7, 1910 was a spectacular event which included a reception, a ball, and a sumptuous banquet of eight courses "which no reader in his right mind would have missed if he were physically and financially able to attend" wrote June Thompson in the Noonan Diamond Jubilee History Book. She went on to say that "A train came in from the east bringing distinguished guests from Minot and Bismarck, as well as assorted passengers from Flaxton, Larson, Lignite and Columbus. The train went on to Crosby, turned around and then made a special trip back to Noonan where it disgorged a horde of merry makers from the western cities. One hundred and fifty persons attended at a charge of \$5 per person." The grand opening was a "grand and successful affair" according to the Noonan Republican, the local newspaper of that era. Such was the auspicious beginning of the social history of this historic building.

The 14 guest rooms at the Travelers Hotel were equipped with telephones and electricity, along with state-of-the art steam heat, making it the most up-to-date hotel in the area at that time. The cost to build the hotel was \$15,000 in 1909.

Many colorful citizens have stayed at the Travelers Hotel in its past, including nineteen-year-old aviator Cromwell Dixon from New York who signed the registry of the Travelers Hotel on September 18, 1911 while in town for the annual Harvest Festival. The Noonan Diamond Jubilee History Book stated that his ship was the first aeroplane flight made from North Dakota soil, but further research has revealed that there were earlier flights made in the eastern part of the State. Cromwell was later given the distinction of being the first aviator to cross the Continental Divide.

Annie Oakley, the famous female American sharpshooter and exhibition shooter who starred in Buffalo Bill's Wild West show, signed the registry on April 27, 1911. Noonan newspapers from that time period are missing so no related information concerning her stay at the hotel could be found.

Jim Hill's signature is found frequently in the registry of the Travelers Hotel as he took care of railroad business in the area. James Jerome Hill (September 16, 1838 – May 29, 1916), was a Canadian-American railroad executive. He was the chief executive officer of a family of lines headed by the Great Northern Railway, which served a substantial area of the Upper Midwest, the northern Great Plains, and Pacific Northwest. Because of the size of this region and the economic dominance exerted by the Hill lines, Hill became known during his lifetime as "The Empire Builder", a legend of success that remains



Divide, North Dakota County and State

today. As Hill expanded his railroad, he allowed immigrants, who arrived mainly from Norway and Sweden, to travel across the country on his railroad for \$10, provided that they agreed to settle on the route. By encouraging the creation of settlements and towns along the Great Northern's route, Hill set the stage for the region's economic development — and his own company's assured future — in the production of agricultural and other products his railroad would carry to the rest of the country. The states of Minnesota and the Dakotas became popular states for immigration because of Hill. In 1915 at the Panama-Pacific Exposition in San Francisco, Hill was named State of Minnesota's "greatest living citizen" for his important role in railroad history.

During prohibition, Noonan's 7-mile proximity to Canada made the area a popular spot for bootleggers transporting liquor across the border on Highway 40 north of of Noonan and beer shacks sprang up in many places along the Canadian border. The Travelers Hotel was a convenient place for bootleggers and thirsty U.S. residents to spend the night as they traveled back and forth across the border. When the prohibition ended in 1933, the Travelers Hotel was the first establishment in Noonan to serve legal liquor again. Though many of the older women in Noonan frowned upon this, Mr. Amundstad, who was the owner of the hotel at that time, was quick to install kegs of beer, which he frequently sipped on throughout the day.

Anyone of any importance coming to Noonan most likely spent a night or two at the Travelers Hotel. Annual celebrations such as the Harvest Festival and Old Settlers Day brought many visitors to town. Mostly though, the pages of the registry books are filled with the signatures of people who lived and worked in the Noonan area or people who came to visit relatives there. Page after page reveals signatures of the grandparents, great-grandparents, great aunts and uncles, etc. of the people currently living in the Noonan area. As people came to this area, they often needed a place to stay until making a permanent home of their own. Homesteaders just starting out in agriculture could always get a job mining or hauling and shoveling coal to supplement their meager income, making Noonan an attractive place to settle.

The hotel's lobby and restaurant were also used as meeting places for various organizations, parties and social events throughout the years. Bridal showers, card parties, and even weddings have been held there. Because the first doctor and dentist in Noonan worked out of rooms in the hotel, most every citizen was familiar with the hotel. The dentist rented two rooms, one to stay in and one to work out of. Even the folks who had homes out in the country occasionally found it necessary to spend a night or two at the hotel when a wintery blizzard prevented them from travelling home. And because the hotel lobby was the only place in Noonan to have a public phone booth, people frequently stopped by to use it. Even into the 1970s, kids who lived out of town would go to the hotel after school events to call their parents and then wait in the lobby to be picked up. It was also one of the few places in Noonan to have a public restroom, and so many locals stopped there often to use the facilities. Beginning in 1929, the hotel was also the pickup and dropoff point for the bus that traveled to Minot and back daily.

The Travelers Hotel was a popular place in its day, and a central hub in the development of the city of Noonan. It served as a hotel and restaurant from the time it opened until the late 1970s. The restaurant area was used for a short time as a grocery store, then it was made into a bar and it continued in that capacity until it closed in 2002. It was a highly successful as bar in the late 1980s and 1990s, bringing many Canadians across the border every weekend. Since its closure in 2002, which was largely due to its deteriorating condition, it has remained vacant. The new owners, who purchased the building in 2009, have repaired the roof and are hoping to restore the building into a hotel/restaurant again and retain its social significance in the small town of Noonan and its farming community.

Name of Pro	operty				County and State
. Major	Bibliographical	References			
Bibliogra	phy (Cite the books	s, articles, and other sources used in prep	paring this for	m on one or more o	continuation sheets)
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request		anal Pagistas		Other State agenc	У
	sly listed in the National sly determined eligib	onal Register ble by the National Register		Federal agency Local government	
designa	ated a National Histo	ric Landmark	-7-	University	
		an Buildings Survey # an Engineering Record #		Other ne of repository: D	Divide County Library
		Number (if assigned):	148/1	ie of repository.	Avide Soundy Library
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ts 7 and	8 of Block 2 in t	he City of Noonan, Divide County	North Da	kota.	

The two lots are 25' x 140' for a total of 7000 square feet. The front of the lots face Main Street and there is a pleasant fenced backyard bordered by the alley with trees and a concrete patio which at one time was used as a beer garden.

Divide, North Dakota

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

Travelers Hotel

Boundaries do not exceed the land historically associated with the property.

Travelers Hotel Name of Property	Divide, North Dakota County and State
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Karen Verlinde	
organization	date January 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2010
street & number 9955 108th Ave NW	telephone 701-925-5736
city or town Noonan	state ND zip code 58765
e-mail <u>angelkjames@yahoo.com</u>	
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed for	m:
<ul> <li>Continuation Sheets</li> <li>Additional items: (Check with the SHPC</li> <li>Property Owner</li> </ul>	O or FPO for any additional items)
name Karen Verlinde	
street & number 9955 108 <sup>th</sup> Ave NW	telephone 701-925-5736
city or town Noonan	state ND zip code58765
Photographs:	
Submit clear and descriptive black and white phot (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to	tographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 the sketch map.
(pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to	

Photographer: unknown

Date Photographed: ca 1911

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1 of 13. Early photo of the front (west) and south side of the Travelers Hotel (on left) along with the the First International Bank of Noonan (on right) which was built a year earlier in 1908. The two buildings share a common wall.

Photographer: Karen Verlinde

Date Photographed: January 6, 2007

#### Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 2 of 13. Front (west) and north sides of Travelers Hotel. It faces Main Street.
- 3 of 13. Back (east) and south sides of Travelers Hotel.
- 4 of 13. Front (west) and south sides of Travelers Hotel
- 5 of 13. Detail of the stepped cornice brickwork along front of the hotel.
- 6 of 13. Detail of brick segmented archway above window. All of the windows except the windows on the front of the hotel of the hotel have these segmented archways.
- 7 of 13. Original wooden stairway leading from lobby to the upstairs guest rooms.
- 8 of 13. Base of the stairway in the lobby.
- 9 of 13. Border of tin ceiling which runs all around the edge of the dining room.
- 10 of 13. The 2'x2' tin ceiling panels located in the dining room and the lobby of the Travelers Hotel.
- 11 of 13. Room number located one of the doors on a guest room upstairs.
- 12 of 13. Transom windows above all the doors on the guest rooms upstairs.
- 13 of 13. Registry books of the Travelers Hotel. There are 22 books dating from the time it opened in 1910 to 1929.

#### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property – Travelers Hotel

County and State – Divide County, ND

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section Additional Documentation

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#### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property - Travelers Hotel

County and State - Divide County, ND

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section Additional Documentation

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# NOONAN

COAL FIELD

TWP



1915 Plat Map of the town of Noonan - The Travelers Hotel is on Block 2 Lots 7 & 8

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION	
PROPERTY Travelers Hotel NAME:	
MULTIPLE NAME:	
STATE & COUNTY: NORTH DAKOTA,	Divide
DATE RECEIVED: 5/20/10 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/03/10 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:	DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/18/10 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/04/10
REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000423	
REASONS FOR REVIEW:	
OTHER: N PDIL: N PE	NDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N RIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N R DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N
COMMENT WAIVER: N	JUL 6 2010
ACCEPTRETURNRE	JECTDATE
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:	
	Entered in National Register of Historic Places
RECOM./CRITERIA	
REVIEWER	DISCIPLINE
TELEPHONE	DATE
DOCUMENTATION see attached comm	ents Y/N see attached SLR Y/N
If a nomination is returned to	



















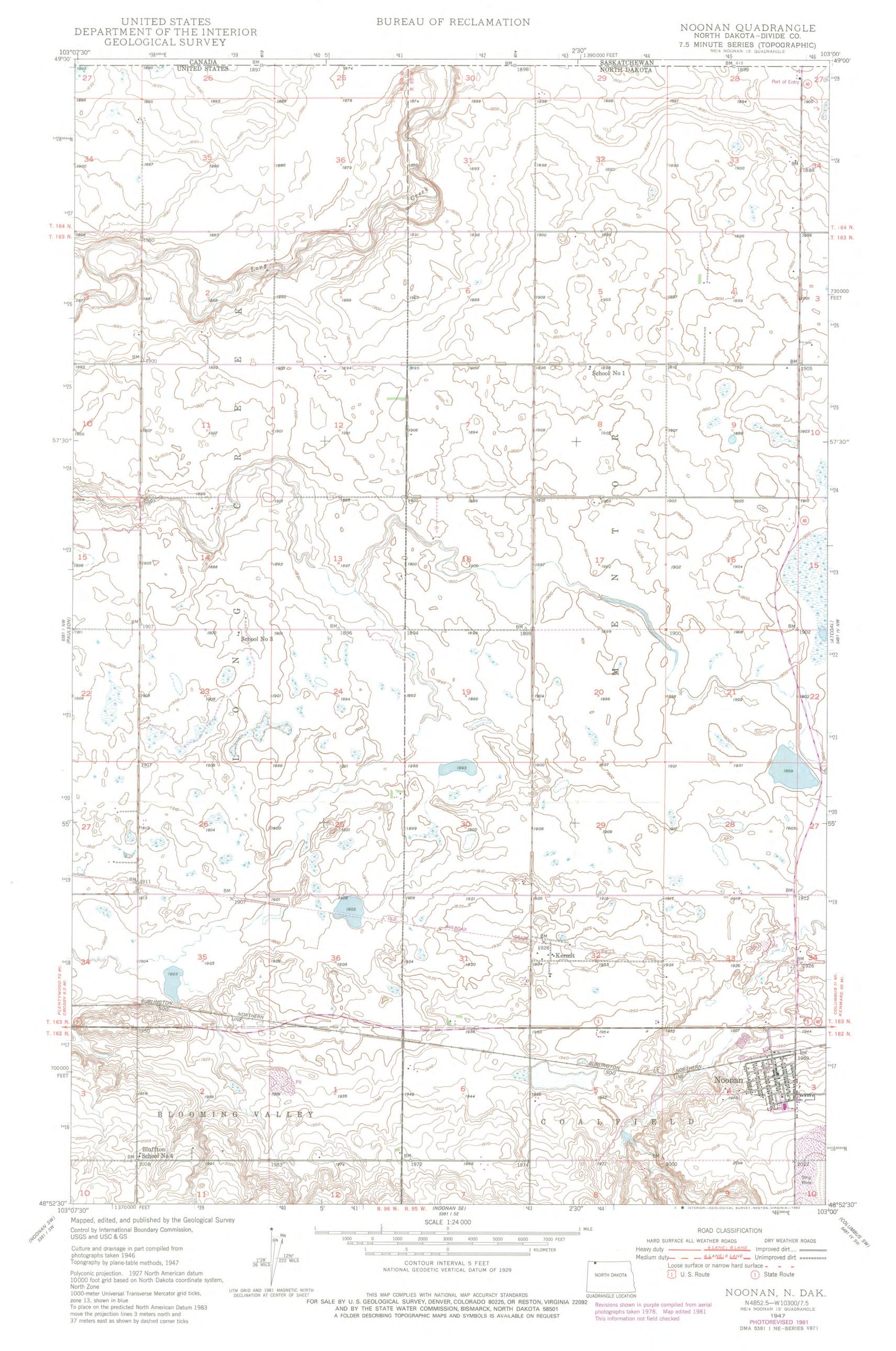








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To: Keeper, National Register of Historic Places
From: Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr./ Lorna Meidinger
Date: 18 May 2010
Subject: National Register Nomination



The following materials are submitted on this 18th day of May 2010, for the nomination of the Travelers Hotel to the National Register of Historic Places.

1	National Register of Historic Places nomination form on archival paper
	Multiple Property Nomination form on archival paper
13	Photographs
1	Original USGS map(s)
2	Sketch map(s)/figure(s)/exhibit(s)
	Pieces of correspondence
14.	Other: Photo cd
COMMENTS:	Please insure that this nomination is reviewed
	This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
	The enclosed owner objections do do not constitute a majority of property owners.
	Other: